

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace the first paragraph on page 21 with the following:

PCR primers are preferably chosen using one of a number of computer programs that are available. Such programs choose primers that are optimum for amplification of a given sequence (i.e., such programs choose primers subject to the conditions stated above, plus other conditions that may maximize the functionality of PCR primers). One computer program is the Genetics Computer Group (GCG recently became Accelrys) analysis package which has a routine for selection of PCR primers. There are also several web sites that can be used to select optimal PCR primers to amplify an input sequence. One such web site is <http://alces.med.umn.edu/rawprimer.html>. Another such web site is http://www-genome.wi.mit.edu/cgi-bin/primer/primer3_www.cgi.